EXHIBIT "F"

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

NO. 2:15-cv-01815-SD
JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

1

JOSEPH and URSY)
A. VITALE)

) DEPOSITION UPON

)

) ORAL EXAMINATION

)

vs.) OF

)

ELECTROLUX HOME) URSY A. VITALE

PRODUCTS, INC.)

- - -

TRANSCRIPT OF ORAL DEPOSITION, taken by and before DONNA HUNTER, Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public, at the Offices of deLUCA LEVINE, LLC, Three Valley Square, 512 E. Township Line Road, Suite 220, Blue Bell, PA, on Wednesday, December 23, 2015, commencing at 6:15 p.m.

ERSA Court Reporters
30 South 17th Street
United Plaza, Suite 1520
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 564-1233

Г	
2	4
1 APPEARANCES:	1
2	2 (It was stipulated by and between
deLUCA, LEVINE, LLC	3 counsel that sealing, and certification be
3 By: PATRICK A. HUGHES, ESQUIRE	 waived; and that all objections, except as
Three Valley Square 4 Suite 220	5 to the form of the question, are reserved
512 E. Township Line Road	·
5 Blue Bell, PA 19422	6 until the time of trial.) 7
6 Counsel for Plaintiffs	
7 NICOLSON LAW GROUP	8 URSY A. VITALE, having been
8 BY: ANDREW CARROLL, ESQUIRE	9 duly sworn, was examined and testified as
Rose Tree Corporate II - Suite 6035	10 follows:
9 1400 North Providence Road	THE REPORTER: Usual stipulations?
Media, PA 19063	MR. HUGHES: Except for reading and
Counsel for Defendant,	13 signing.
11 Electrolux Home Products, Inc.	14 BY MR. CARROLL:
12	15 Q. Good evening, Mrs. Vitale. My name is
13 ALSO PRESENT: 14 JOSEPH A. VITALE	16 Andrew Carroll, and I'm an attorney with Nicolson
15 JOSEPH A. VITALE	Law Group, and I'm here representing the defendant
16	in this case, Electrolux. What we're here for today
17	19 is called a deposition.
18 19	Have you ever been deposed before?
20	21 A. No.
21	22 Q. So, basically, what a deposition is, it's a
22	question-and-answer session. I'm going to ask you a
23 24	few questions about your background, the home, and
3	5
3	3
1 26	the subject fire, and you're going to provide me
2 3 INDEX	2 with the answers to the best of your ability.
3 INDEX	3 A. Okay.
WITNESS:	4 Q. So, seated to my right, and your left, is a
5	5 court reporter, and it's her job to take down
URSY A. VITALE	6 everything we say. She's going to then prepare a
By Mr. CarrollPage 4	7 transcript, which I believe you are going to review,
7	8 and the purpose of that is just so that we can use
By Mr. HughesPage 40	9 it at trial.
8 9 EXHIBITS	So in connection with that, there are a few
10 PAGE PAGE	11 ground rules that, hopefully, will make this go as
NUMBER DESCRIPTION MARKED ATTACHED	12 smoothly as possible.
11 Vitale 1 Photograph of house 0 47	The first one is that if you could please
Vitale-1 Photograph of house 9 47	14 use all verbal responses. So, shakes of the head,
Vitale-2 Dryer Operating/ 26 48	15 and unh-unhs, and uh-huhs, are not so clear on the
13 Installation Instructions	16 record. So we would appreciate yeses, noes, and
14 Vitale-3 Checklist for drying 27 49	17 other verbal responses.
15 Vitale-4 Stickers 29 50 16	18 A. Okay.
17	19 Q. If I ask you a question, and you provide an
18	20 answer, I'm going to assume that you understood the
19 20	and the second s
20 21	question, and that the diserter is training, to the
22	
23	gg
24	don't understand the question, I am happy to

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

	6		8
1	rephrase it. Just let me know.	1	children all living with you at that time?
2	A. Okay.	2	A. Correct, yes.
3	Q. We're also going to be asking you some	3	Q. Was anyone else living with you at that
4	questions from a while ago about distances, and	4	time?
5	whatnot. So if you don't know the exact answer, "I	5	A. Just my husband, the five of us.
6	don't know", or "I don't recall" is perfectly	6	Q. Do you have any pets?
7	acceptable.	7	A. Yes.
8	Having said that, if you are able to	8	Q. What pets do you have?
9	approximate, that's great. We do appreciate that,	9	A. We have one cat?
10	and we would like that. Just make sure that you	10	Q. What kind of cat is that?
11	make it clear that you are only estimating and	11	A. No specific breed.
12	you're not providing an exact response.	12	Q. Does she shed at all?
13	A. Okay.	13	A. No.
14	Q. It's important that we also not speak over	14	Q. And, where does she stay in the house?
15	each other. So while you may anticipate the	15	A. She likes to, kind of, hangout. I mean, I
16	question that's coming, it's important that you	16	don't really recall, like, specific areas.
17	allow me to get the full question out before	17	Q. Does she have a litter box in a specific
18	providing your answer to make sure that the record	18	area, or anything like that?
19	is clear, and to make it easier for her to take down	19	A. The litter box, I'm trying to remember where
20	what we are saying.	20	we had it. We had one in the basement. I don't
21	A. I understand.	21	recall if there was another spot.
22	Q. Okay. You had an opportunity to meet with	22	Q. Okay. And, could you tell me a little bit
23	Mr. Hughes before this deposition?	23	about your educational background.
24	A. I did. This is the first time I've seen him	24	A. I attended Community College of Philadelphia
	7		9
1	7 today.	1	9 for a little bit.
1 2		1 2	
	today.		for a little bit.
2	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition	2	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there?
2	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go	2	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No.
2 3 4	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process.	2 3 4	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living?
2 3 4 5	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and	2 3 4 5	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house?
2 3 4 5 6	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then.	2 3 4 5 6	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it?
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years. Q. And, who do you live with on Purdie Lane?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that. And, I'm actually going to show you a
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years. Q. And, who do you live with on Purdie Lane? A. My husband, Joe, and then we have three	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that. And, I'm actually going to show you a picture. We will have it marked.
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years. Q. And, who do you live with on Purdie Lane? A. My husband, Joe, and then we have three children.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that. And, I'm actually going to show you a picture. We will have it marked. (Photograph marked Vitale Exhibit
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years. Q. And, who do you live with on Purdie Lane? A. My husband, Joe, and then we have three children. Q. And, how old are your three children?	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that. And, I'm actually going to show you a picture. We will have it marked. (Photograph marked Vitale Exhibit No. 1 for identification.)
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years. Q. And, who do you live with on Purdie Lane? A. My husband, Joe, and then we have three children. Q. And, how old are your three children? A. Their current ages are 10, and then we also	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that. And, I'm actually going to show you a picture. We will have it marked. (Photograph marked Vitale Exhibit No. 1 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL:
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years. Q. And, who do you live with on Purdie Lane? A. My husband, Joe, and then we have three children. Q. And, how old are your three children? A. Their current ages are 10, and then we also have an eight-year-old and a seven-year-old.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that. And, I'm actually going to show you a picture. We will have it marked. (Photograph marked Vitale Exhibit No. 1 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Ms. Vitale, looking at what's been marked as
2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	today. Q. Okay. You understand how the deposition works, and you don't need any more time to go A. No, I understand the process. Q. Okay. So, we can just go ahead, and get started then. Could you please provide your full name, and address, for the record. A. Ursy, middle initial A, Vitale, 1812 Purdie Lane, Maple Glen, PA 19002. Q. And, is that Purdie, P-U-R-D-I-E? A. Yes. Q. And, how long have you lived at that address? A. We moved in June of 2010, so a little over five years. Q. And, who do you live with on Purdie Lane? A. My husband, Joe, and then we have three children. Q. And, how old are your three children? A. Their current ages are 10, and then we also	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	for a little bit. Q. And, did you get any degrees from there? A. No. Q. What do you do for a living? A. I'm currently staying at home. Q. How long have you been taking care of the house? A. The last 10 years. Q. Does anyone in your house smoke? A. No. Q. And the 1812 Purdie Lane, do you own that home? A. Yes. Q. How long have you owned it? A. We purchased it in June of 2010. Q. All right, you did say that. And, I'm actually going to show you a picture. We will have it marked. (Photograph marked Vitale Exhibit No. 1 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL:

3 (Pages 6 to 9)

	10		12	
1	Q. And since purchasing the home, have you had	1	laundry room?	
2	any kind of construction done on the home?	2	A. So, you'd have the one door leading into the	
3	A. When we first bought the house, we just did,	3	laundry room, and then there was another door	
4	like, some cosmetic things that we put in some new	4	when you went into the laundry room, there was also	
5	kitchen cabinets, countertops.	5 another door that led into a sun room. And ther		
6	Q. Do you remember who did that?	6 sun room had another door that led outside to th		
7	A. We had my husband put in the cabinets,	7 backyard.		
8	and then we had I'm trying to remember. I think	8 Q. And, were both of these doors made out of		
9	it was Colonial Marble that did the countertops	9	the same material?	
10	yes.	10	A. The door leading into the laundry room, that	
11	Q. Was there any kind of electrical, or other	11	was just a wooden door. And then the door leading	
12	noncosmetic work, done in connection with that?	12	into the sun room was wood with it had some glass	
13	A. No.	13	panes in it.	
14	Q. Did you have any other kind of renovations	14	Q. Okay. And, so, the wooden door not the	
15	done?	15	sun room door but the other wooden door, was that	
16	A. No.	16	just a solid door?	
17	Q. Have you ever had any issues with the house?	17	A. Yes.	
18	A. No.	18	Q. And the window in the sun room door to the	
19	Q. Never had to get anything repaired?	19	laundry room, was that just the top half, or how	
20	A. No.	20	much of that was glass?	
21	Q. Now, if you could just kindly explain to me	21	A. Yes, the top half. So, you had your lower	
22	the layout of the home, maybe start by walking in	22	part was wood, and then you had the panes on the top	
23	through the front door?	23	half, correct.	
24	A. Okay. So when you first walk into the	24	Q. And, what kind of flooring was in the	
	11	1	13	
1	11	1	laundry room?	
1	entry, you have the formal living room to the right	1 2	laundry room?	
2	entry, you have the formal living room to the right where these windows are right here. (Indicating)	2	laundry room? A. We have linoleum down there.	
2	entry, you have the formal living room to the right where these windows are right here. (Indicating) To the left, you have another, like, a	2	laundry room? A. We have linoleum down there. Q. And, was that entire floor linoleum?	
2 3 4	entry, you have the formal living room to the right where these windows are right here. (Indicating) To the left, you have another, like, a family room. When you first walk into the house,	2 3 4	laundry room? A. We have linoleum down there. Q. And, was that entire floor linoleum? A. I'm trying to recall. There might have been	
2 3 4 5	entry, you have the formal living room to the right where these windows are right here. (Indicating) To the left, you have another, like, a family room. When you first walk into the house, you'll see the stairwell leading to the second	2 3 4 5	laundry room? A. We have linoleum down there. Q. And, was that entire floor linoleum? A. I'm trying to recall. There might have been one section I'm trying to remember. I don't	
2 3 4 5 6	entry, you have the formal living room to the right where these windows are right here. (Indicating) To the left, you have another, like, a family room. When you first walk into the house, you'll see the stairwell leading to the second floor.	2 3 4 5 6	laundry room? A. We have linoleum down there. Q. And, was that entire floor linoleum? A. I'm trying to recall. There might have been one section I'm trying to remember. I don't recall if it was full linoleum, or partial. I don't	
2 3 4 5 6 7	entry, you have the formal living room to the right where these windows are right here. (Indicating) To the left, you have another, like, a family room. When you first walk into the house, you'll see the stairwell leading to the second floor. If you continue straight on the first floor,	2 3 4 5 6 7	laundry room? A. We have linoleum down there. Q. And, was that entire floor linoleum? A. I'm trying to recall. There might have been one section I'm trying to remember. I don't recall if it was full linoleum, or partial. I don't remember.	
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4 (Pages 10 to 13)

	14		16
1	Q. And, was the dryer in a corner? Were there	1	dryer?
2	two walls bordering it, or was it between something	2	A. No.
3	else?	3	Q. What was stored in the closet?
4	A. I mean, there was a wall right there.	4	A. Like, laundry detergent.
5	Q. A wall on the backside?	5	Q. Anything else?
6	A. Yeah. I mean, you know the wall of the	6	A. No.
7	house, you know, they were, like, lined up next to	7	Q. Were there any windows in the laundry room?
8	each other.	8	A. Yes. There was one window. Correct, one
9	Q. And if you are looking at the dryer, was	9	window.
10	there a wall to the left, as well?	10	Q. Where was the window?
11	A. Yeah. There was space there. Yeah, there	11	A. Kind of, like, where the utility like,
12	was a wall there.	12	the utility tub, and then a little bit over, kind
13	Q. Okay. And, how much space was separating	13	of, like, near the washing machine, like, along the
14	that wall on the left from the dryer?	14	wall there, a small window.
15	A. I don't recall.	15	Q. And, was the dryer exhausted anywhere?
16	Q. Okay. Do you recall if there was more, or	16	A. I
17	less, than five feet?	17	MR. HUGHES: Object to form.
18	A. You're saying against the wall of the house,	18	BY MR. CARROLL:
19	the dryer up against the wall of the house?	19	Q. Do you know if the dryer had any kind of
20	MR. HUGHES: Near the left wall of	20	venting on it?
21	the house.	21	A. I would talk to when you speak to my
22	BY MR. CARROLL:	22	husband about that, he can give you more information
23	Q. It's my understanding if you are looking at	23	about that.
24	the dryer, the wall immediately behind it was the	24	Q. Okay. So, you don't know anything about the
	15		17
I			- '
1	wall of the house?	1	venting?
1 2	wall of the house? A. Correct.	1 2	
			venting?
2	A. Correct.	2	venting? A. I handled more, you know, just everyday,
2 3	A. Correct.Q. And, then there was also a wall to the left	2 3	venting? A. I handled more, you know, just everyday, using the washer, and the dryer.
2 3 4	A. Correct.Q. And, then there was also a wall to the left of it?	2 3 4	venting? A. I handled more, you know, just everyday, using the washer, and the dryer. But as far as the maintenance, I would speak
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2 3 4 5 6	 A. Correct. Q. And, then there was also a wall to the left of it? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So the wall to the left of it, do you 	2 3 4 5 6	venting? A. I handled more, you know, just everyday, using the washer, and the dryer. But as far as the maintenance, I would speak to him about that. Q. Okay. And the dryer, itself, did you
2 3 4 5 6 7	 A. Correct. Q. And, then there was also a wall to the left of it? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So the wall to the left of it, do you recall if it was more, or less, than five feet away 	2 3 4 5 6 7	venting? A. I handled more, you know, just everyday, using the washer, and the dryer. But as far as the maintenance, I would speak to him about that. Q. Okay. And the dryer, itself, did you purchase it?
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	 A. Correct. Q. And, then there was also a wall to the left of it? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So the wall to the left of it, do you recall if it was more, or less, than five feet away from the dryer? A. I mean, I don't recall. Maybe my husband would remember. I don't really I can't really give you, you know no, I don't remember the distance. Q. Okay. And, what about between the dryer, and the wall of the house? A. The back wall, I would say definitely I would say a minimum of 12 inches. Q. And, did you keep anything above the dryer? A. No. Q. Was there any shelving at all in that room? A. No. 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	venting? A. I handled more, you know, just everyday, using the washer, and the dryer. But as far as the maintenance, I would speak to him about that. Q. Okay. And the dryer, itself, did you purchase it? A. No. Q. How did you come to acquire the dryer? A. When we bought the house, the dryer was already in the house. Q. Okay. And, do you know how old it was at the time? A. No. Q. Was that something that you, like, particularly negotiated for in purchasing the home, or A. No. Q. Do you remember discussing the dryer, and washer, at any time during the purchase of the home?
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	 A. Correct. Q. And, then there was also a wall to the left of it? A. Correct. Q. Okay. So the wall to the left of it, do you recall if it was more, or less, than five feet away from the dryer? A. I mean, I don't recall. Maybe my husband would remember. I don't really I can't really give you, you know no, I don't remember the distance. Q. Okay. And, what about between the dryer, and the wall of the house? A. The back wall, I would say definitely I would say a minimum of 12 inches. Q. And, did you keep anything above the dryer? A. No. Q. Was there any shelving at all in that room? A. No. Q. And, how far was the closet from the dryer? 	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	venting? A. I handled more, you know, just everyday, using the washer, and the dryer. But as far as the maintenance, I would speak to him about that. Q. Okay. And the dryer, itself, did you purchase it? A. No. Q. How did you come to acquire the dryer? A. When we bought the house, the dryer was already in the house. Q. Okay. And, do you know how old it was at the time? A. No. Q. Was that something that you, like, particularly negotiated for in purchasing the home, or A. No. Q. Do you remember discussing the dryer, and washer, at any time during the purchase of the home? A. No discussions.

5 (Pages 14 to 17)

	18		20
1	Q. On the day of the fire, was it in the same	1	Q. And, did you have any problems with the
2	position it was when you originally purchased the	2	dryer prior to the day of the fire?
3	home?	3	A. No.
4	A. Yes.	4	Q. Did you ever find that clothes weren't
5	Q. And, did you receive any kind of	5	drying quick enough, or
6	documentation in regards to the dryer when you	6	MR. HUGHES: Object to form.
7	purchased the home?	7	You can answer.
8	A. No.	8	THE WITNESS: No.
9	Q. And, you said that you are the primary user	9	BY MR. CARROLL:
10	of the dryer?	10	Q. Did you ever find that your clothes had any
11	A. Yes.	11	kind of holes in them, or otherwise damaged, after
12	Q. So, how often would you use the dryer?	12	coming out of the dryer?
13	A. Probably about once a day, sometimes twice a	13	A. Never, no.
14	day. But, mostly, I would say, like, once a day,	14	Q. And, did you ever clean the dryer?
15	usually.	15	MR. HUGHES: Object to form.
16	Q. And, did you have any kind of typical loads	16	Can you describe what you mean by
17	that you would do?	17	"clean". Are talking about cleaning the
18	A. Just, you know, regular clothing for the	18	lint filter?
19	family. You know, bath towels, you know, something	19	BY MR. CARROLL:
20	like that.	20	Q. Any kind of cleaning in, or around, the
21	Q. What about, does anybody in the house have	21	dryer, let's start with that?
22	some kind of work uniform, or anything, aside from	22	A. Okay. So every time, before I would turn
23	the usual cotton clothing?	23	the dryer on, I always would clean the filter, you
24	A. No.	24	know, take the lint screen out, you know, get the
1			
	19		21
1	Q. What kind of detergent did you use?	1	lint out, and make sure it was clean.
2	Q. What kind of detergent did you use?A. I don't really have a specific brand. I	2	lint out, and make sure it was clean. And then, you know, occasionally, I would
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6 (Pages 18 to 21)

	22		24
1	inside the drum?	1	Q. So either between the dryer, and the washer,
2	THE WITNESS: Yes, inside the drum.	2	or between the back wall, and the dryer?
3	I just kind of look around, and	3	A. I mean, I would wipe down, you know, the
4	BY MR. CARROLL:	4	top, like if there was ever any dust. You know,
5	Q. Okay. So, the drum itself?	5	what I would normally do, if I saw a little bit of
6	A. Yes, just to make sure there's no, like, I	6	dust, just wipe it off and, you know
7	don't know, little dirt particles. I don't know,	7	MR. HUGHES: And, specifically,
8	just you know, something like that.	8	he's asking you the areas on the floor, like
9	Q. Okay. And when you said you cleaned the	9	around the dryer, did you ever sweep or
10	lint trap, did you use your hand, or a dryer sheet,	10	vacuum?
11	or	11	THE WITNESS: Oh, yeah, definitely.
12	A. I always use my hand, and just went through,	12	We would always sweep and vacuum, and things
13	and made sure there was no remnants left over in	13	like that, before.
14	there.	14	BY MR. CARROLL:
15	Q. And, did you do any other kind of cleaning	15	Q. Okay. And, how often would you sweep and
16	inside the dryer?	16	vacuum around?
17	MR. HUGHES: Object to form.	17	A. Daily. I mean, you know, every other day,
18	Could you be more specific with	18	you know, just I would say a few times a week,
19	what you mean by "inside the dryer"?	19	definitely, two to three times a week.
20	Are you talking about disassembling	20	Q. And, this cleaning of the area around the
21	the dryer, or are you talking about	21	dryer, did that ever include pulling the dryer out
22	MR. CARROLL: Anything inside the	22	from the wall?
23	four walls of the dryer in any way.	23	A. I would talk to my husband about that
24	MR. HUGHES: I'm still going to	24	because that's his area of I would direct, if you
	23		25
1	object to the form. Anything other than	1	have avertions about that to him
			have questions about that, to him.
2	what she's already testified to	2	Q. Okay. So when you personally cleaned the
3	what she's already testified to MR. CARROLL: I mean, I don't want	1	·
	·	2	Q. Okay. So when you personally cleaned the
3	MR. CARROLL: I mean, I don't want	2	Q. Okay. So when you personally cleaned the area around the dryer, what would you do?
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7 (Pages 22 to 25)

	26		28
1	Vitale-2.	1	A. No.
2	(Document marked Vitale Exhibit No.	2	Q. Have you ever seen this particular checklist
3	2 for identification.)	3	before?
4	BY MR. CARROLL:	4	A. I have not.
5	Q. I'm showing you what has been marked as	5	Q. Have you ever seen a checklist like this
6	Vitale-2. It's labeled Dryer Owner's Manual and	6	with any other dryer?
7	Installation Instructions.	7	A. No.
8	Could you just take a look at that for a	8	Q. Does any of that information look familiar
9	second?	9	to you?
10	A. (Witness complies.)	10	MR. HUGHES: Look familiar as in
11	Q. You don't have to read every word. Just	11	has she seen it before?
12	familiarize yourself with the document.	12	MR. CARROLL: As in has she seen
13	A. Okay. I was just kind of looking through	13	information provided on this before?
14	it. Okay.	14	THE WITNESS: Well, I know always
15	Q. Does this document look familiar at all to	15	clean your lint filter before every dryer
16	you?	16	cycle. And, that's something that I always
17	A. I have never seen this before.	17	do, so
18	Q. Have you ever seen any kind of Dryer Owner's	18	BY MR. CARROLL:
19	Manual or Installation Instructions before, either	19	Q. It also references Installation
20	with this dryer, or any other dryer?	20	Instructions, and outdoor vent hoods.
21	A. No.	21	Do either of those terms, or phrase, do
22	Q. Do you recall ever receiving any kind of	22	you recognize those phrases at all?
23	documentation with the dryer when you purchased the	23	A. Yes. I mean
24	home?	24	MR. HUGHES: He is asking you
	27		29
1	A. No.	1	generally, do you know what they mean?
2	Q. Had you owned a dryer prior to this dryer?	2	THE WITNESS: Yes, I understand
3	A. Yes.	3	what they mean, you know, as far as making
4	Q. Do you recall ever receiving any	4	
		I	sure you have proper, you know, ductwork,
5	documentation with those dryers?	5	sure you have proper, you know, ductwork, nothing clogging it, you know.
5 6	documentation with those dryers? A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever	5 6	
			nothing clogging it, you know.
6	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever	6	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL:
6 7	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it.	6 7	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this
6 7 8	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it.Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another	6 7 8	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure.
6 7 8 9 10 11	 A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. 	6 7 8 9 10	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	 A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 	6 7 8 9 10 11	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.)
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.)	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL:
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL:	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as Vitale-3, I will represent to you this is actually	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you see on the outside. What's important is what's
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as Vitale-3, I will represent to you this is actually an engineering diagram here so that some of the	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you see on the outside. What's important is what's inside the box.
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6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as Vitale-3, I will represent to you this is actually an engineering diagram here so that some of the outside stuff, I want you to ignore. But, just look at the part that says "Follow"	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you see on the outside. What's important is what's inside the box. A. Okay, sure. Q. Now, looking at what's within that box, do
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as Vitale-3, I will represent to you this is actually an engineering diagram here so that some of the outside stuff, I want you to ignore. But, just look at the part that says "Follow This Check List For Best Drying Performance", and	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you see on the outside. What's important is what's inside the box. A. Okay, sure. Q. Now, looking at what's within that box, do you recognize ever seeing this before?
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as Vitale-3, I will represent to you this is actually an engineering diagram here so that some of the outside stuff, I want you to ignore. But, just look at the part that says "Follow This Check List For Best Drying Performance", and then it lists a few items.	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you see on the outside. What's important is what's inside the box. A. Okay, sure. Q. Now, looking at what's within that box, do you recognize ever seeing this before? A. No.
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as Vitale-3, I will represent to you this is actually an engineering diagram here so that some of the outside stuff, I want you to ignore. But, just look at the part that says "Follow This Check List For Best Drying Performance", and then it lists a few items. A. Okay.	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you see on the outside. What's important is what's inside the box. A. Okay, sure. Q. Now, looking at what's within that box, do you recognize ever seeing this before? A. No. Q. Do you recall ever seeing any kind of
6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	A. I'm sure we did. I don't remember ever looking through it. Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another document here. MR. CARROLL: We'll mark this as Vitale-3, please. (Document marked Vitale Exhibit No. 3 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Now, looking at what's been marked as Vitale-3, I will represent to you this is actually an engineering diagram here so that some of the outside stuff, I want you to ignore. But, just look at the part that says "Follow This Check List For Best Drying Performance", and then it lists a few items.	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	nothing clogging it, you know. BY MR. CARROLL: Q. Okay. So while you haven't seen this particular checklist, you are familiar with at least those two aspects of the dryer? A. Sure. (Document marked Exhibit Vitale No. 4 for identification.) BY MR. CARROLL: Q. What's being marked as Vitale-4, I am going to again tell you to go ahead and ignore what you see on the outside. What's important is what's inside the box. A. Okay, sure. Q. Now, looking at what's within that box, do you recognize ever seeing this before? A. No.

8 (Pages 26 to 29)

30 32 1 Q. 1 I was in the kitchen, and I thought I Did you ever look behind the dryer? A. 2 2 A. smelled a smoke smell. 3 3 Ω Did you ever look on the side of the dryer Q. And, the kitchen is on the same level as the 4 4 between the washer -- or the side that's next to the laundry room? 5 5 washer, I should say? Α. Correct, yes. 6 6 Q. So what happened after you smelled smoke? A. No. 7 7 So, I kind of looked around for a minute. Q. But, from what you could see on the dryer, 8 8 there were no stickers of any kind? And I knew I had clothes in the dryer, so I went 9 9 into the laundry room. And when I opened the door No. 10 10 MR. HUGHES: Object to form. to the laundry room, I noticed a haze, like, in the 11 11 room, like a -- you could just tell like something That's not what she said. That 12 12 mischaracterizes her testimony. wasn't right in there. There was kind of, like, a 13 13 You asked her if she saw this little smokey look to the room. 14 14 Do you want me to continue? sticker before, and she said no. 15 15 Q. MR. CARROLL: Well, then, I asked 16 16 if she had seen any stickers. A. Okay. So, I opened the door to the dryer, 17 17 and I was kind of, like, looking around. And when I MR. HUGHES: Okay. Do you recall 18 18 seeing any stickers on the dryer? opened it, I saw, like, a little bit of, like, smoke 19 19 come out. And, I was kind of alarmed when I saw THE WITNESS: No. 20 20 BY MR. CARROLL: that 21 Mrs. Vitale, I want to talk a little bit 21 So I went to look around for a fire 22 22 extinguisher, and at that point the smoke detectors about the day of the actual fire itself. 23 23 At the time of the fire, were you operating starting to go off in the house. And my three kids 24 24 were home, and they were getting scared. And when I the dryer? 31 1 A. Yes. 1 started to walk back into the laundry room, the room 2 2 Q. And, could you tell me what you were using started filling with black smoke. And, I was 3 3 talking to the fire department -- I called them -it for? 4 4 Just drying my children's clothes. There and she said to get out of the house immediately. 5 5 may have been a bath towel, or two, in there. That So, we all ran out. 6 6 And when you saw the smoke, was it coming was pretty much it. 7 7 Q. Do you recall the size of the load? from anywhere in particular on, or in, the dryer? 8 8 A. I don't recall. I don't really remember. Well, when I went to -- okay, I did leave 9 9 And before the load that you put in, that out a part. 10 10 ultimately was in during the fire, did you use it So when I came back, I noticed that flames 11 11 any other time during the day? were shooting out of the dryer. When I went 12 No. I think that was the first time I --12 through -- I forgot to put that part in there --13 13 actually, I don't remember. I don't remember. when I was moving the clothes around, that's when I 14 14 So, can you just take me from the point saw flames coming out of the dryer. So that's when 15 15 I went to go get the fire extinguisher. And then where you put the load into the dryer, and tell me 16 16 when I came back, that's when the room started to what happened then? 17 17 Okay. So, I put the load into the dryer. I fill with -- I'm sorry, it's a little traumatic to 18 18 was making dinner for my kids. I'm not sure how talk about. 19 19 No problem. Take your time. long into it -- I mean, it probably was in there, Ο. 20 20 maybe -- I'm not sure how long, actually, the So, you saw the flames, and then you left 21 21 clothes were in there. But, I started to smell, the room, and then you came back to the room? 22 22 like, a smoke smell. A. I was looking for -- I went to go get a fire 23 23 Where were you when you first started extinguisher, and then when I came back, I could see 24 24 black smoke started to come out, and the room -smelling a smoke smell?

9 (Pages 30 to 33)

34 36 1 Okay. I didn't tell you this instruction 1 Ο. company was already alerted, and we were standing 2 earlier, but if you need to take a break at any 2 outside waiting for the fire company to come. 3 3 time, please just let me know. We're happy to take When the fire department came, did you speak 4 4 a break. Okay? with anyone? 5 5 They just asked me, you know, if everybody Okay. Α. 6 Ο. 6 was out of the home. I said they were. And, you So the first time you saw flames in the 7 7 dryer, where, specifically, was it coming from? know, they just went in, and started doing what they 8 8 I mean, I'm trying to remember because it do to try to control the fire. 9 9 was so upsetting but it was kind of, like, from the Do you remember anyone from the fire 10 bottom. It looked to me as though the bottom, I saw 10 department telling you anything about the fire? 11 11 flames shooting upward. No. I didn't speak with anybody until later 12 12 And when you say the bottom, was it within on. You know, they said they were able to contain 13 13 the drum or, you know, sort of underneath the dryer? it, you know, a while later. But, they didn't 14 14 I mean, I don't know. I just saw flames. I really speak to me while they were taking care of 15 15 don't, you know -- you know, I can't really specify. 16 16 Ο. You know, when you see flames, you get Did they ever speak to you about the source 17 scared. So you think ut-oh, I'd better do 17 of the fire? 18 something. So, that's when I went to go get the 18 A. I mean, I told them that, you know, there 19 19 fire extinguisher. was a fire in the laundry room. Actually, I 20 And the second time when you came back --20 think -- I think someone, actually, when they first 21 Α. Well, that's when I heard, kind of, like a 21 came, there was a first responder, and he said, "Do 22 22 weird noise, and then all of a sudden very thick you know where the fire started?" And I said, "My 23 black/gray smoke started pouring out of the dryer, 23 dryer caught on fire." 24 24 and it started to fill the house very quickly. And, So, I did speak to someone who actually --35 37 1 that's -- you know, the kids were screaming, and we 1 I'm sorry, I recall speaking to someone who first 2 2 ran out of the house. came out, and I told them that the fire was in the 3 3 When you say you heard a noise, can you laundry room because they kind of wanted to know 4 4 describe what that noise was like? what -- like, they were trying to figure out what 5 5 way they wanted to get into, like, the source of Honestly, I don't. I don't even know how to 6 describe it. I don't know what the noise was, or 6 where it was, to give them, like, a better idea. 7 where it came from. I just heard, you know, some Do you know how long the fire department was 8 8 type of a noise. at your home? 9 9 Was it like a bang, or a screech? Oh, I don't -- I mean, it's a blur. I mean, 10 10 I don't remember. hours. I don't have a specific, you know -- I mean, 11 11 Ο. Had you ever heard that noise before? I know we didn't leave till almost midnight. We got 12 Α. No. 12 into a hotel, it was after -- it was like 12:30 at 13 13 Q. And, you said you're not sure where it came night. I don't know. Hours. 14 14 from? Was the fire department still at your home 15 15 when you left that night? Α. I mean, it came from the laundry room. 16 16 Q. I think they waited until someone came to 17 17 A. You know, right before I heard the noise, board up the house. And then once they boarded up 18 and then all of a sudden, you know, I could see more 18 the house, we all -- we left after they boarded up 19 19 black smoke started pouring out. the house. So, actually, I don't know if anybody 20 Could you tell specifically where in the 20 was still there. Once the house was secure, we left 21 21 with the kids. laundry room it was coming from? 22 22 Do you remember what happened to the dryer Α. No. 23 23 Q. And, what happened after you left the house? afterwards? 24 24 Α. Well, at that point, you know, the fire I don't know. I mean, it was dark at that

10 (Pages 34 to 37)

	38		40
1	point. I don't know what happened to the dryer.	1	A. Yes.
2	Q. Do you recall ever seeing the dryer again	2	Q. Are you satisfied with all the repairs that
3	after that day?	3	were done?
4	A. Well, when the adjusters came out from the	4	A. Yes.
5	insurance company, we met them at the home, and the	5	Q. And, have you submitted all of the claims
6	dryer was outside in our backyard.	6	that you intend to submit to your insurance company?
7	Q. Do you remember when that was?	7	A. Yes.
8	A. The fire was on September 4th. They came	8	MR. CARROLL: Okay. I think that's
9	out a couple days later. I don't remember the exact	9	all I have for her.
10	date.	10	MR. HUGHES: Okay.
11	Q. Was the dryer underneath anything? Did it	11	MR. CARROLL: Do you have any
12	have a tarp over it in any way, or was it just	12	questions?
13	sitting out in the yard?	13	MR. HUGHES: Yes, I do.
14	A. I don't remember.	14	BY MR. HUGHES:
15	Q. And, you said that you went to a hotel the	15	Q. Mrs. Vitale, I just have a few questions for
16	night of the fire?	16	you.
17	A. Correct.	17	First and foremost, were you aware that this
18	Q. How long were you out of your home following	18	type of dryer allows lint to collect in areas that
19	the fire?	19	are not visible to the user, and near the heat
20	A. Oh, total, or just	20	source, which present a fire hazards?
21	Q. Total.	21	MR. CARROLL: Objection.
22	A. It was over 10 months, or 10, plus months.	22	BY MR. HUGHES:
23 24	I would have to look at a calendar to give you an	23	Q. Are you aware of that? A. No, I was not.
	exact, but it was definitely a good 10 months, I	24	A. No, I was not.
	39		41
1	would say.	1	Q. You testified earlier that the subject dryer
2	Q. And, could you describe for me what kind of	2	came with the purchase of the house. Correct?
3	damage was done to the home?	3	A. Correct.
4	A. I mean, my husband could probably get more	4	Q. Okay. And, that you were not provided with
5	into detail with you. I mean, there was extensive	5	a copy of the Owner's Manual, that's marked as
6	smoke damage, obviously. You know, everything had	6	Vitale-2, when you acquired the dryer. Correct?
7	to get pretty much almost everything had to get	7	A. Correct.
8	redone. But, he could get into more detail,	8	Q. Okay. Were you aware that the manufacturer
9	probably, with you because he was working, I think,	9	recommends that the dryer should be completely
10 11	closely with our contractor.	10 11	disassembled, and lint cleaned out of the dryer by a
12	Q. Well, was there structural damage to the	12	qualified technician?
13	home, do you know? A. You probably will have to talk to him more	13	No, I was not aware. Okay. If there was a sticker, or some type
14	A. You probably will have to talk to him more about that.	14	of warning on the dryer in a conspicuous place that
15	Q. Okay. But, you said that there was damage	15	told you that if you didn't have a qualified
16	to the contents?	16	technician, or if you didn't have the dryer
17	A. Oh, definitely, yes.	17	completely disassembled, and cleaned out, that lint
18	Q. Was there anything that was not	18	could accumulate near the dryer's heat source, and
19	smoke-damaged from the fire?	19	cause a fire, would you follow that instruction?
20	A. Some clothes were laundered. You know we	20	A. Yes.
21	got back clothes, but that was pretty much it. I	21	Q. Okay. You said you cleaned the lint filter
22	mean, everything else was damaged.	22	out before and after every time you used it. Is
23	Q. And, has your home since been fully	23	that correct?
	repaired?	24	A. Correct.

11 (Pages 38 to 41)

	42					44
1	Q. Was the lint filter always in the dryer?	1		ΕF	RRATA	
2	A. Yes, always.	2				
3	Q. Okay. You never operated the dryer without	3	PAGE	LINE	CORRECTION	
4 5	the lint filter; is that correct? A. Never.	4 5				
6	MR. HUGHES: Okay. Those are all	6				
7	the questions I have for you.	7				
8	THE WITNESS: Okay.	8				
9	MR. CARROLL: No followup.	9				
10		10				
11	(Witness excused.)	11				
12	(Deposition concluded at 6:56	12				
13	p.m.)	13				
14		14				
15		15				
16		16				
17 18		17				
19		18 19				
20		20				
21		21				
22		22				
23		23				
24		24				
	43					45
1	INSTRUCTIONS TO WITNESS	1	AC	CKNOWLED	GEMENT OF DEPONENT	
2		2				
3	Please read your deposition over carefully	3	Ι_		, do hereby	
4	and make any necessary corrections. You should	4	-		read the foregoing pages	
5	state the reason in the appropriate space on the	5			that the same is a correct	
6	errata sheet for any corrections that are made.	6	-		e answers given by me to the	
7	After do so, please sign the errata sheet	8	-		set forth, except for the	
8	and date it. You are signing same subject to the changes	9			nges in form or substance, if a ned Errata sheet.	ny,
10	you have noted on the errata sheet, which will be	10	noted in	i tile attaci	ieu Litata sileet.	
11	attached to your deposition.	11				
12	It is imperative that you return the	12				
13	original errata sheet to deposing attorney within	13	Su	ubscribed a	nd sworn to before me this	
14	thirty (30) days of receipt of the deposition	14		_day of	·	
15	transcript by you. If you fail to do so, the	15				
16	deposition transcript may be deemed to be accurate	16	My com	mission ex	pires:	
17	and may be used in court.	17				
18		18				
19		19				
20		20	Notary F	Public		
21		21				
22		22				
24		24				
		27				

12 (Pages 42 to 45)

	46			48
1	CERTIFICATE	1	Exhibit Vitale-2	
2		2	Exhibit Vitale 2	
3	I HEREBY CERTIFY that the proceedings,	3		
4	evidence and objections are contained fully and	4		
5	accurately in the stenographic notes taken by me	5		
6	upon the Deposition of URSY A. VITALE, December 23,	6		
7	2016, and that this is a true and correct transcript	7		
8	of same.	8		
10		9		
11		10		
12		11		
13		12		
		13		
14	DONNA HUNTER	14		
	Registered Professional Reporter	15		
15	and Notary Public	16		
16 17		17		
18	(The foregoing certification of	18		
19	this transcript does not apply to any	19		
20	reproduction of the same by any means,	20		
21	unless under the direct control and/or	21		
22	supervision of the certifying reporter.)	22		
23		23		
24		24		
	47			49
1	Exhibit Vitale-1	1	Exhibit Vitale-3	
2		2		
3		3		
4		4		
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8		8		
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